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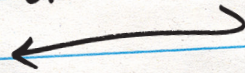
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THE MAN WHO WASN'T THERE

Billy Glaze served three decades in prison for Minneapolis serial killings. DNA points to someone else. *By Susan Du*

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Getty Images

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THE SHORTLIST



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5

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"It's not like he's competing with Sam Cooke's summer tour."

Reader Justin Holmes responds to "Har Mar Superstar's Sam Cooke shows: Honor or appropriation?" at citypages.com.

WELFARE QUEENS

COMPLAIN IF YOU MUST about Minnesota's tax rates. But be thankful you're not living in Wisconsin, the land of record-breaking corporate welfare.

Wisconsin is about to hand \$4 billion to Foxconn to build a plant that will employ 3,000 people. Depending upon variables in incentives, taxpayers end up forking over as much as \$587,000 for every \$50,000 job.

It will take until 2043—at least—for the state to cover the welfare bill. And since the plant will make display screens for computers, TVs, and the like, there's a good chance it will be obsolete long before the final payment is made.

POPULAR STORIES

AT CITYPAGES.COM

An open letter to Donald Trump, from the **'MAN-BUNNED PROTESTER'** in Duluth

STUB & HERBS sells to University of Minnesota; campus bar's days are numbered

Apartments to replace **GRUMPY'S** in downtown Minneapolis?

Here are all the **NEW FOODS** of the 2018 Minnesota State Fair

HOUSTON-TO-MINNEAPOLIS FLIGHT lands in Rochester, passenger loses it [Video]

THE GREAT DECEPTION

Clinics can dupe women seeking abortions

Last week, the U.S. Supreme Court made it harder for women to get abortions.

The case involved a California law concerning “crisis pregnancy centers.” Or as Andrea Ledger, executive director of NARAL Pro-Choice America, calls them, “fake women’s health centers.”

“Really, these clinics have the purpose of dissuading women from seeking abortions,” Ledger says.

Crisis centers market themselves to women seeking abortions. Their sales pitch includes ads for “free pregnancy tests,” with the accompanying mantra: “If you’re considering abortion, call this number.”

But abortion is the one thing they uniformly don’t offer. What they do offer? A lot of often unfounded advice about abortions.

NARAL volunteers have gone undercover at different locations. The patient is usually whisked to an examination room, where she can’t talk to the people who came to support

her. A staff member offers an ultrasound. The idea, Ledger says, is that an image will dissuade patients from seeking an abortion.

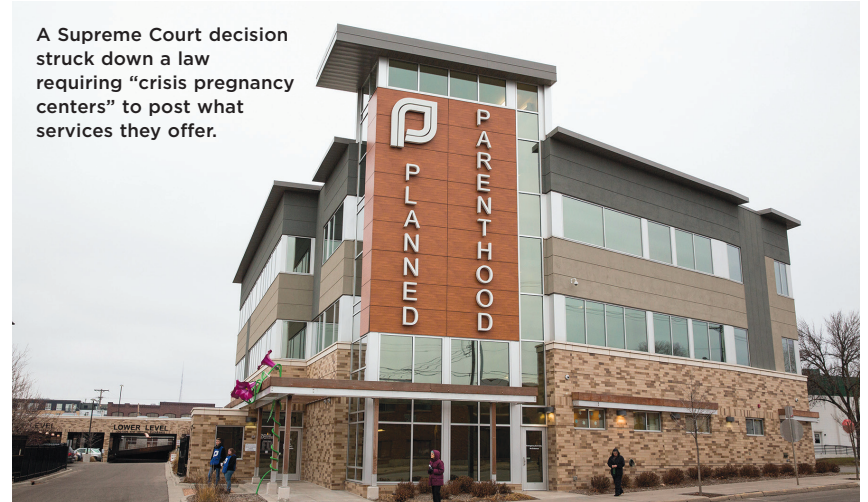
Then comes talk of “health risks.” Clinicians have told undercover patients that abortion will lead to infertility, breast cancer, the end of their marriages, or suicide. They discuss “abortion regret syndrome,” an emotionally crippling guilt suffered in the aftermath. None of this, Ledger says, is backed by science.

Sometimes the undercover patients would sit for hours. Staffers would string them along with the promise that, eventually, they’d be referred to get an abortion. But it never actually happened.

The California law required these clinics to be up front about the services they provide, and what other services are available at other clinics in the state.

According to NARAL, there are about 93 such centers in Minnesota—compared to just five clinics that offer abortion. And those

A Supreme Court decision struck down a law requiring “crisis pregnancy centers” to post what services they offer.



LEILA NAVIDI, STAR TRIBUNE

centers are often right across the street.

Planned Parenthood in St. Paul frequently sees patients who have been to Abria, the clinic across the street, where they get a run-around similar to the one Ledger describes. Spokesperson Jennifer Aulwes says a clinic told one patient she was seven weeks into her pregnancy. Planned Parenthood found out she was actually 14 or 15 weeks in.

“They try to make them believe that they have more time,” Aulwes says. “It’s some-

thing an actual health care provider would morally and ethically never do.”

Abria executive director Nancy Utoft says she can’t speak to incidents like the one Aulwes describes. She says Abria offers ultrasounds, pregnancy testing, and STI testing, as well as information about pregnancy and abortions from the Minnesota Department of Health. She also says their website states that they don’t offer abortions or referrals to abortion clinics. —HANNAH JONES

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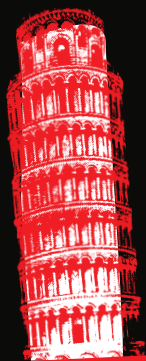
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THE SPREADING TREE

In the summer of 1986, a young woman was found dead in the bushes beside an abandoned warehouse at the edge of downtown Minneapolis. Before the arrival of Target Field, this low barren was littered with trash and frequented by the homeless.

The killer meant for the scene to shock. The woman was nude, her clothes posed nearby. A three-foot-long pipe, used to smash the victim's face, lay across her throat. A tree branch protruded from between her legs.

Nineteen-year-old Kathleen Bullman was born on a Sioux reservation in South Dakota and passed from one foster family to another. By adulthood, she'd moved to Minneapolis, where she lived on the streets, suffering from alcoholism and turning tricks to make ends meet.

Nearly a year went by before another body turned up in a field behind the American Indian Center in Phillips. The woman had been mutilated in such a similar manner that her body's arrival on the autopsy table made the medical examiner reel with *deja vu*.

This time the victim was 26-year-old Angeline Whitebird-Sweet, who'd moved to Minneapolis from a Chippewa reservation in Wisconsin after losing custody of her three children. Like Bullman, she was unemployed, a barfly who frequented the gin mills of Franklin Avenue.

Less than three weeks later, 21-year-old Minneapolis native Angela Green was found underneath the Park Avenue Bridge on what is now the Midtown Greenway. She too had been battered, strangled, and posed.

With Green's murder, Minneapolis Police sounded the alarm of a serial killer targeting vulnerable Native women who might have dabbled in prostitution.

FBI profilers believed the assailant was middle aged, a nocturnal single man who enjoyed total freedom of movement and lived within walking distance of each crime scene. He likely lurked on the fringes of society, frequenting neighborhood bars without really socializing. Police should be looking for a sexually dysfunctional man who hated women and would likely kill again with increasing abandon, they wrote.

Details of the gruesome finds echoed in transient corridors. They terrorized the insular Native community, which had already endured the unsolved murders of two other young women. Indian leaders urged cooperation with police despite their strained relationship.

Meanwhile, additional slayings dotted the American northwest, with bodies of sex workers surfacing in Washington and

the man who wasn't there

Billy Glaze served three decades in prison for Minneapolis serial killings. DNA blames someone else.

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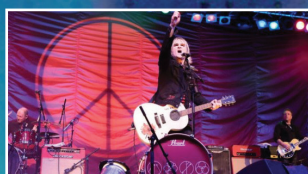
HEART SOCIETY
JULY 22



JEARLYN & JEVETTA STEELE
JULY 23



JOHN PIZZARELLI
JULY 24



THE ALARM
JULY 25



THE MOTELS
FEAT. MARTHA DAVIS
JULY 26



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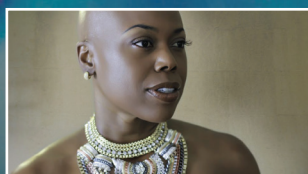
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Oregon. Young women wouldn't walk the streets of Minneapolis alone at night.

Police Chief Tony Bouza didn't venture far from public opinion when he told reporters in 1988, "We should find [the murderer] and execute him."

A FACE IN THE DARK

Police didn't have much to go on at first. No witnesses came forward. The crime scenes were filthy with debris, complicating the task of sorting out relevant evidence.

Eighties forensics came down to fingerprints and blood typing. Though semen had been found on Angela Green, there was no way to identify the source in those pre-DNA analysis days.

The community offered up many suspects—violent boyfriends, abusive ex-husbands. Finally, one name stood out: Jesse Coulter, a.k.a. Jesse Sitting Crow, a.k.a. Billy Glaze.

Glaze was a 43-year-old drifter who immersed himself among Native Americans, a white man who falsely claimed to have hailed from far-flung reservations.

He'd been abandoned by his mother and raised by a father who whipped him with a hickory stick. His teens were spent in a Georgia mental institution for boys with assorted and oft-misdiagnosed problems. He was sterilized at the request of a punishing stepmother.

Glaze later traversed the country, compiling debts. In 1974 he was convicted of rape in Texas after a friend's wife accused him of holding her down and forcing sex. He surrendered to police and was sentenced to 10 years of probation.

In the spring of 1986, Glaze arrived in Minnesota. Just before the murders began.

The step-aunt of one victim was the first to tip police to Glaze. At the Band Box Diner in Elliot Park where she worked, he'd boasted of how he'd like to sexually assault Native women with objects. He once threatened to kill a mentally handicapped woman for laughing.

A procession of bartenders and waiters around town corroborated his penchant for unsolicited, obscenity-laden proclamations about whoever crossed his path.

Within days of the third murder, Glaze abruptly left town. He was stopped in New Mexico after running a red light and arrested for violating probation. News outlets identified him—by name and mugshot—as a suspect in the Minneapolis killings.

That's when accusers began to spill from the woodwork. Prosecutors wove a complex web of connections between Glaze and the victims, relying heavily on testimony from inconsistent jailhouse informants.

A homeless man called from prison more than a year after Kathleen Bullman's

death. He claimed to have watched Glaze kill her. But he also said he'd camped 60 feet away on that rainy night, so drunk and high on weed that he wasn't sure if anything he saw was real.

Angeline Whitebird-Sweet's roommate waited nine months—until she was sitting in jail for forgery—to remember running into a man who resembled Glaze in their bustling home. Yet she described him by a distinctive tattoo Glaze didn't have and a truck he didn't own.

A convicted burglar called from prison some seven months after Angela Green's death to report he'd been walking to the grocery store when he saw Glaze standing on the bridge above her body, looking wild-eyed and crazy. But the jury was never told that he'd been a close friend of Faye Ann Erickson, a victim in an unconnected murder, whose family was convinced Glaze was her killer too. Later, prosecutor Peter Connors helped knock six months off the burglar's sentence as thanks for his testimony.

A man incarcerated in the Ramsey County Jail recalled Glaze blathering on

**"We should find
[the murderer]
and execute him."**

about "squaws" during a screening of an old *Star Trek* episode, which he described at length. It didn't take investigators long to discover *Star Trek* was never part of the jail programming.

Another prisoner claimed Glaze lent him a novel about a serial killer, with the most graphic passages underlined. Analysis of the book revealed only that inmate's fingerprints.

More incriminating were Glaze's own statements. While he asserted his innocence to the press, he'd apparently written a note to a fellow inmate stating, "Don't let anyone here [sic] you, but not to let anyone know, I killed them, I was mad at them."

To a jailer, he'd requested a private cell "because I'm the serial killer."

The defense would argue that as far as confessions went, these were of poor caliber. They lacked the sort of detail that only the killer would know. Another man had similarly confessed to killing all three women, but that information was excluded at trial.

There was practically nothing by way of physical proof. Prosecutors had a shoe

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print—but no shoe—that seemed to be Glaze's size. They had a ring from Glaze's disgruntled ex-girlfriend—whom he'd scammed out of \$3,000 after promising to marry her—that resembled a ring one of the victims once owned.

Prosecutor Connors admitted as much in his closing statement. "Make no bones about it, with the exception of the shoe print, there is no physical evidence pointing to this man. But just the other side of the coin is this: There is no physical evidence pointing to anyone else."

The sheer volume of cumulative

mentally denies this. She claims the office never expected to find anything of value on the jacket, but tested it anyway because "it's important for prosecution offices to be at least open to the idea that they might get it wrong."

The following year, Glaze wrote the Innocence Project for help. He asked for a thorough DNA review of his case. Since his conviction had come without physical proof, the Innocence Project agreed to take it on.

Yet two decades had passed since the crimes were committed. Evidence had

"He also sees faces looking at him where there aren't any faces really there, like in trees and other places out in the world."

accusations convinced the jury to find Glaze guilty.

He was sent to Delaware, out of reach of Minnesota's Native prison gangs, to serve three consecutive life terms. He was doomed to die in prison.

THE DOUBTS THE FUTURE BROUGHT

Fast forward to the new millennium, when DNA revolutionized criminal justice. Using genetic databases stockpiled with offenders' profiles, police placed criminals behind bars with more certainty than ever before. Groups like the Innocence Project were using the same new science to reverse wrongful convictions across the nation.

Traditional forensics like fingerprints, shoe prints, and bite marks seemed primitive by comparison. Detectives also began to discover the fallibility of eyewitnesses, who'd mistakenly ID'd the wrong suspect in more than three-fourths of the first 250 DNA exonerations.

Confessions proved similarly unreliable. One quarter of those wrongfully convicted had also falsely confessed.

In 2003, the Hennepin County Attorney's Office submitted a smattering of evidence from old cases for DNA testing. Among the items was a bloody jacket found near Angeline Whitebird-Sweet's body.

The jacket would yield no new information. Yet the Innocence Project of Minnesota pointed to the testing as reason to believe prosecutors had always harbored doubts about Glaze's guilt.

County Attorney Jean Burdorf vehe-

been misplaced or destroyed, including bloody clothing and two of the sticks found in the victims. Still, untested cigarette butts and liquor bottles potentially stored important unknowns.

County Attorney Steve Redding, one of Glaze's original prosecutors, argued that because all three women were promiscuous, and because their bodies turned up in areas frequented by the homeless, no amount of DNA would necessarily identify the murderer.

Judge Francis Connolly proposed a challenge. He would allow the tests, which could just as easily cement Glaze's guilt. But he would need to see the DNA of another person connected to multiple pieces of evidence—collected from different women on different days—before he would entertain the notion of exoneration.

The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) declined to re-evaluate the evidence it analyzed before Glaze's trial. Private labs would assume the challenge, testing 39 pieces of evidence over the next seven years.

Orchid Cellmark specialized in pulling DNA profiles from degraded and aging evidence, succeeding where others failed. By 2009, it had rendered a verdict from Angela Green's vaginal swab. It didn't match Glaze.

The profile had to be uploaded to CODIS, the nationwide criminal database. Only government labs have access, but the BCA refused to upload another lab's work. It would take another three years before the FBI agreed to assist. The sample matched a convicted rapist.

Court records identify the new suspect







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only as “J.A.S.,” since he hadn’t been charged with the crimes. At the time of the three murders, he was in his early 20s, frequenting many of the same bars as Glaze. Though he’d been jailed for petty crimes during the eight-month span between the first murder and the last, he was out of custody when each one took place.

A month after Glaze’s conviction, J.A.S. was convicted for the brutal stranger rape of a Native woman, who said he’d beaten, kidnapped, and likely would have killed her had she not escaped when he’d passed out drunk. He was sentenced to nearly three years.

Detectives caught up with J.A.S. in prison in 2009, where he was serving time for failure to register as a sex offender. Transcripts show police gave him multiple opportunities to provide an innocent explanation for why his DNA was found on Green.

He flatly denied ever having contact with her or the other victims. Police never questioned him again.

In 2014, Cellmark developed a DNA profile from a cigarette butt retrieved from the Angeline Whitebird-Sweet crime scene. It too matched J.A.S.

The Innocence Project hired its own investigators. They found J.A.S. at the Pursuit Homotel, a halfway house in Phillips, where he’d been ordered to live following his release from prison. He was then 50, unemployed, and making pocket money panhandling.

Again he stated there could be no reason for his DNA to be found at any of the crime scenes. He insisted he was incapable of beating women. His father had beaten his mother, he said. It defied his values.

But he did confide to investigator Jennifer Vitry that he feared the hallucinations he’d suffered his whole life were getting worse.

“He also believes a woman visits him and talks to him at night, but he knows she’s not alive,” Vitry wrote. “He also sees faces looking at him where there aren’t any faces really there, like in trees and other places out in the world. He knows they are hallucinations, and it scares him.”

A NEW TRIAL FOR A DYING MAN

Word spread of the Innocence Project’s crusade. In a 2014 interview with KARE 11, former Minneapolis Police Chief Tony Bouza recalled that although he’d always found the case “shaky,” he’d advocated for prosecuting Glaze anyway. He’d been their best shot at a conviction.

But after years of DNA testing failed to produce a single link to Glaze, the Innocence Project’s Julie Jonas was certain: If prosecutors in 1988 knew what

we know now, Glaze would have never been charged.

Jonas believes his conviction was a simple matter of piling on. He was an outsider in a fearful community. Once his photo appeared in the paper, “Then all of a sudden everybody’s like, ‘Oh yeah.’ I do think they remembered things out of context. They created memories.”

Undoubtedly Glaze said racist things about Native women, adds attorney Ed Magarian of Dorsey and Whitney, who partnered with the Innocence Project after DNA connected J.A.S. to Angela Green’s vaginal slide.

“But here’s the thing: If J.A.S. was arrested, and his picture was in the paper, I’m willing to bet you my entire bank account and our home on the fact that [prosecutors] would have witnesses who would come in and say the exact same thing about J.A.S.”

In 2014, the Innocence Project tracked down two of J.A.S.’s ex-girlfriends, who spoke of his vicious, drunken rages. One recalled suspecting J.A.S. of the murders—and fearing she’d end up a victim too.

Another woman described how he’d beat her until she thought she’d die, how he’d kneel on her chest “with all his body weight, like he was trying to push all the air out of my lungs, as he had his hands wrapped around my throat.”

She mentioned that J.A.S. customarily wore a bandana to hold his hair back. Angeline Whitebird-Sweet was found nude but for a red bandana around her neck. It was lost following Glaze’s trial, and could not be tested.

The Innocence Project also spoke to Green’s stepfather, Eugene Robertson, who’d once worked security at the American Indian Center. He immediately recognized a photo of J.A.S. as a man with a reputation for violence and volatility. Once, he recalled vividly, a woman who worked in the center’s soup kitchen wet her pants in fear because J.A.S. was waiting for her outside.

“People around the American Indian Center used to say that [J.A.S.] beat every woman he was with,” Robertson said in an affidavit. “I do not believe Angela would ever voluntarily date this man or spend time with him. She would run away from him.”

At the same time, trial witness Michael Savage recanted his 1988 testimony. His conscience had gotten to him. He admitted lying about having seen Glaze with victim Kathleen Bullman at a bar shortly before her murder.

Flush with new DNA evidence and the identity of an alternate perpetrator, the Innocence Project asked the district court to grant a new trial for Glaze, who was in the autumn of his life, suffering from memory loss and poor health.

Yet the county attorney’s office insisted that “overwhelming evidence” pointed to

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Glaze, not the least of which was a previously unknown confession he'd made in 2004 while imprisoned in Delaware.

According to transcripts, Glaze told a corrections officer he wanted to take credit for about a dozen murders in California so he could be transferred there. The officer did most of the talking, asking Glaze about various unsolved hitchhiker slayings that took place in the 1970s. Glaze interspersed his short affirmations with repeated questions about when he might move to the Golden State.

When the corrections officer brought up the Minneapolis murders, Glaze assured him he was guilty. Yet he was so unconvincing the officer was later reprimanded by his commander for giving Glaze the time of day. None of the confessions led to criminal charges.

Mayo Clinic psychologist Dr. Steven Althuler examined Glaze's mental state. He concluded the 70-year-old man had the IQ of a 13-year-old boy, and was prone to lying for such short-term benefits as the respect of his fellow inmates, a private cell, or transfer to what he believed to be a more humane prison.

Still, Hennepin County contested the relevance of J.A.S.'s DNA. Prosecutors argued there was no way of knowing when he might have had sex with one victim, or when he smoked a cigarette near where another body was found.

Although police reports described the cigarette butt as "fresh appearing," County Attorney Jean Burdorf says police could have mistakenly bagged a degraded cigarette. She notes that before the original trial, the medical examiner who inspected Green noticed that the sperm had heads but no tails, meaning they had already begun to break down. That means she could have had sex hours, even days, before she was last seen alive, the prosecutor reasons.

But in 2015, Cellmark uncovered another crucial piece of the puzzle, photographing fresh sperm with tails in swabs taken from Green's vagina and mouth. The discovery crushed all doubt: J.A.S. had sex with Green immediately before her murder.

A fight ensued over whether to acknowledge the new evidence. Both sides hired semen experts to review Cellmark's work.

The Innocence Project's doctor confirmed fresh sperm with tails. But the prosecutors' doctor claimed they were nothing but dye smears, born of an archaic method of preparing microscopic slides during the '80s.

As testing wound up, the lawyers filed a flurry of motions in an attempt to resolve their disputes.

"We have always thought he's guilty," says Burdorf. The mutilations stopped with Glaze's imprisonment, after all.

"We still think he's guilty. None of the DNA testing that has been done has changed this office's mind about whether

he was the serial killer in these crimes. He was."

GUILTY BY DEATH

For most of his 27 years in captivity, Billy Glaze had little interaction with others. He filled his days with word search puzzles and *Hogan's Heroes*.

The closest thing Glaze had to a friend was Debra Kovats, an Innocence Project attorney. For years, they talked by phone every week or so, their conversations swirling around the meaninglessness of prison life.

In 2015, Glaze was suddenly diagnosed with stage-four lung cancer, a death sentence. His final act was to appoint Kovats his personal representative. His dying wish was to clear his name.

When Glaze died, lawyers Julie Jonas and Ed Magarian asked the district court for permission to amend the heading on their legal filings. Where it had read "Billy Richard Glaze vs. the State of Minnesota," Kovats would become the petitioner, since the dead can't sue.

The district court ignored the plea, simply ruling that a dead Glaze could no longer benefit from having his name cleared.

The Minnesota Supreme Court also ruled against Kovats. "They really denied this on the most technical of grounds without really looking at the merits of the case," Jonas says.

For prosecutors, the decrees were cause for celebration.

"Justice was done in the murders of Kathleen Bullman, Angeline Whitebird-Sweet, and Angela Green," Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman announced in a news release.

"We cooperated with the Minnesota Innocence Project to review the case, but in the end, the evidence was overwhelming that Glaze was the killer and he rightfully spent the rest of his life in prison."

J.A.S. will never stand trial. He walks freely today.

There remains just one unlikely path forward for Glaze's estate: a unanimous decision by Minnesota's governor, Supreme Court chief justice, and attorney general to grant an innocence-based pardon. It would require an extraordinary alignment of political stars.

Attorney Magarian says he can understand why prosecutors believe they are in the right. The person originally in charge of responding to Glaze's petition of innocence, Steve Redding, was among those who put him behind bars in the first place, Magarian says.

"Imagine from his perspective: If it turns out that we're right, he was responsible for putting somebody in jail for nearly three decades."

"I don't hold it against him," he says. "But I don't agree with it. I don't agree that justice was served." ☐

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CHEW IT FOR THE 'GRAM

Where to find the most photogenic foods in the Twin Cities right now

BY STACY BROOKS

Your order arrives at the table with a flourish, each dish carefully plated to entice you to take that first delicious bite.

But instead of grabbing their forks, everyone whips out their phones and starts taking photos. One nudges a water glass aside, another tilts his plate toward the window. Someone grabs a vase of flowers to include in her shot, while the most obsessive member of the party putzes with a garnish, poking an herb sprig into position.

Love it or leave it, Instagram has become an integral part of our modern dining experience. Posting the perfect photo (and then watching the likes roll in) sometimes feels just as rewarding as the meal itself. And some Twin Cities foodies have turned those likes into wildly successful food-focused accounts, attracting tens of thousands of followers who double-tap every glitter-dusted ice cream cone and heaping pile of fries.

Wondering how to up your Instagram game? We spoke to a few of the pros to get their take on the most photoshoot-worthy dishes, tips for snapping the best shot, and the hottest foods in local feeds right now.

THE TIPS:

To start, what types of meals do best on Instagram? “Burgers and ice cream,” says Lamar Roberts (@llama_rober, 2,895 followers), without hesitation. Kat Peterson (@kmlpeterson, 22.2K followers) agrees. “Donuts, burgers, pizza. It’s food porn.”

Golnaz Yamoutpour, owner of @eatdrinkdishmpls (50.8K followers), has a similar list. “Pizza, donuts, burgers, tater tots, cheese curds—this is Minnesota, so cheese curds do really well.” And in that vein, the team behind @foodieapolis (22.2K followers) adds that any food shaped like the state is a surefire hit—think Groundswell’s Minnesota cookie or the MN donuts sometimes offered at Sarah Jane’s Bakery.

However, there is a place for healthier fare, or as Peterson puts it, “Moderate food, what the average person eats.... People do like good food that’s not 5,000 calories.” She says well-constructed salads often do

well, thanks to their vibrant color schemes.

Once you’ve selected your subject, you need to set up the perfect shot. Everyone we spoke to said the same thing: It’s all about the lighting. Natural light is best, and don’t be afraid to move around to get the best light. “I’ve lost my shame,” Roberts says with a chuckle. “I stand on chairs, move to a table by the window, even go outside.”

Yamoutpour recommends taking a top-down, bird’s eye view of the table, incorporating lots of plates, cocktails, and decor such as vases of flowers. “Try to make it look natural,” she says. “Play with angling your phone to see where the light hits best.”

And think beyond the food: Is there a mural wall or a colorful building you can use as a backdrop? (Peterson’s a fan of the red exterior wall at Bogart’s Doughnut Co.) Other popular backgrounds include the tile floor and walls at the Bachelor Farmer Cafe and the “I ♥ Ice Cream” neon sign at Milkjam Creamery.

Ready to get shooting? Here are some of the most Instagram-worthy foods in the Twin Cities right now:

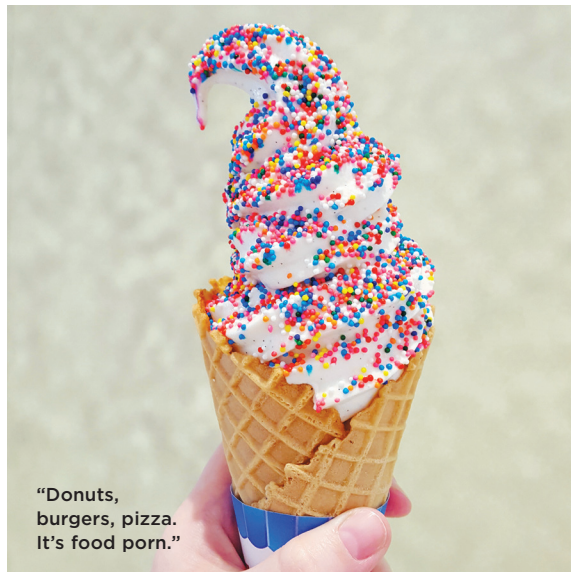
Angel Food Bakery & Donut Bar: Donuts are a perennial Instagram favorite, and the brightly colored creations at Angel Food are particularly on point. Go for the Lisa Frank bismark, topped with swirls of orange and pink icing and filled with confetti sprinkles, or the brilliantly hued raspberry chocolate chip (available as a raised or gluten-free chocolate cake donut). 86 S. Ninth St., Minneapolis; 612-238-1435 angelfoodmn.com

Bellecour: The @foodieapolis team recommends the crepe cake—be sure to experiment with various angles to get the best photo of the intricate layers. They note that “Anything that [pastry chef] Diane Yang makes is going to be good.” Other standouts on the current dessert menu include a frozen lemon parfait with an eye-popping

magenta scoop of raspberry sorbet and the chocolate banana Paris-Brest. 739 Lake St. E., Wayzata; 952-444-5200, bellecourrestaurant.com

Fish Bowl Poké: The glistening bowls of raw fish and vegetables at this new south Minneapolis spot check all the Instagram boxes: colorful, visually striking, and on-trend. Peterson is also a fan of the multi-hued mochi ice cream, especially when posed against Fish Bowl’s graffiti wall. 5 W. 34th St., Minneapolis; 612-354-2516, fishbowlmstp.com

Martina: It’s not exactly under the radar—it was our 2018 Best New Restaurant pick, and Yamoutpour points out that “Everyone and their mom is going here for brunch.” But Martina’s elegant, approachable plating makes it an Instagram darling. The lobster toast looks particularly stunning in a bird’s-eye view of your brunch spread. The



“Donuts, burgers, pizza. It’s food porn.”



KAT PETERSON (@KMLPETERSON)

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FOOD

@foodieapolis team also gave an honorable mention to the unique garnishes, like the grapefruit rose that adorns one brunch cocktail. 4312 Upton Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-922-9913, martinarestaurant.com

Milkjam Creamery: Peterson raves about the drippy cones and “killer light” from the wall of windows. The obvious Instagram choice is to gather a group of friends and order “all of them,” a photogenic array of 16 scoops with sauces, candies, cereal, sprinkles, and more. Smaller appetites can opt for the flight of four scoops, also served with coordinating toppings. 2743 Lyndale Ave. S.; 612-424 4668, milkjamcreamery.com

Nautical Bowls: The @foodieapolis team members are big fans of the offerings at Minnetonka’s Nautical Bowls, which are made with fruit sorbets, chia pudding, fresh fruit, seeds, nuts, and various other antioxidant-laden ingredients. Purported health benefits aside, the bowls have vibrant layers and gorgeous toppings. Build your own or opt for the Nauti Bowl, with its bright, purple-pink pitaya (also known as dragon fruit) sorbet and an artful drizzle of peanut butter. 17623 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka; 952-658-8431, nauticalbowls.com

Sota Hot and Cold: While ice cream always does well on Instagram (especially during all-too-brief Minnesota summers), Sota Hot and Cold’s Thai rolled ice cream stands out because the presentation is so different from your typical sundae. One of the signature rolls is even named after local Instagrammer @kimlycurry: Kimly’s Fruity Ube pairs rolls of lavender ube and green tea ice cream with crushed Oreos, kiwi, strawberries, mangoes, and Pocky sticks. 394 University Ave. W., St. Paul; sotahotandcold.com

Sushi Train: Sure, it’s kind of gimmicky, but the bright borders on the color-coded plates at Minnesota’s first conveyor-belt sushi spot make for a fun photo (make sure to get the conveyor belt in the background). “The buzz factor is important,” says Roberts. “I’m looking for foods that are newly released or restaurants that are newly opened... you need something unique and eye-catching to get people to stop scrolling.” 1200 Nicollet Mall C3; 612-259-8488

Waffle Bar: As our food editor recently discovered, the meticulously crafted ice cream and bubble waffle cones seem custom-made for Instagram, with fun garnishes like gummy bears, fruity pebbles, edible glitter, and cotton candy. Yamoutpour recommends the Boba Waffle, since the lychee jellies and mango pearls are fairly unique ice cream toppings. 2758 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-353-4524, facebook.com/wafflebarmn

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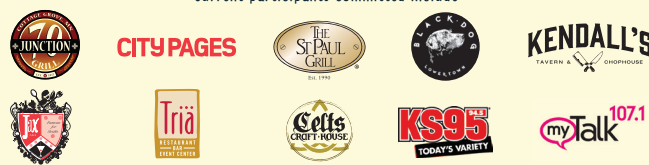
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FRIDAY Artists pay homage to Magic: The Gathering **P. 19**

SATURDAY Little Mekong Night Market returns **P. 22**

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HOLIDAY

RED, WHITE, AND BOOM 2018

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

As our institutions crumble, families seeking asylum are torn apart, and white supremacy sweeps through the nation, it's hard for many to feel patriotic toward America right now. But should you feel like celebrating what America could and should be, then Red, White, and Boom in Minneapolis is a place to do so. There will be pockets of entertainment at various viewing points. Father Hennepin Bluffs Park is more family-friendly, with roving jugglers, magicians, and more. Meanwhile, over by the Stone Arch Bridge you'll find live music and DJ tunes. The fireworks will begin around 10 p.m., and can be viewed at both of the locations above. Other popular viewing points include over by the Mill City Museum, the Guthrie, the Aster Cafe, and the Soap Factory. Or walk along West River Parkway until you spot an open area. Find a map with viewing spots and other details at www.minneapolisparkevents.org. 6 to 11 p.m. Free.

—JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

BIKES/SEMI-NUDITY

FREEDOM FROM PANTS RIDE XII

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For the past 12 years, this ride has been celebrating the birth of our nation the way we're all born: naked and screaming. This July 4, riders will once again free themselves of pants, tops, and other regularly worn items of clothing as they make their way through Minneapolis. Some people wear swimsuits, some wear underwear, some keep their clothes on. There is no wrong sartorial answer here, as long as you feel free. Beers and other beverages will be enjoyed along the route, and usually there's at least one beach stop. Bring sunscreen, bring drinks, and bring a bag for trash, but leave the fireworks to the pros—there's too much exposed skin here for that to be safe. 6 to 11:30 p.m. Free. 2 Merriam St., Minneapolis.

—JESSICA ARMBRUSTER



ANGELA RIZZA

HOLIDAY

FOURTH IN THE PARK

LANGFORD PARK

While Minneapolis sets fireworks off by the river, St. Paul offers a parade plus park and parking lot parties this Fourth of July. Things kick off at 11 a.m. with a parade featuring color guards, marching bands, floats, politicians, and more

making their way down Como Avenue to Langford Park via Knapp Avenue. Following that, in the park you'll find picnicking, music, lawn games like horseshoes and corn hole, sporting tournaments, and plenty of kids' activities. Should you get hungry, food trucks will be stopping by, and after the party ends at Langford around 4 p.m., Sunrise

Banks' parking lot (corner of Como Avenue and Doswell Avenue) will have live music from the Rockin' Hollywoods and beer from Rush River Brewing Company. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free. 30 Langford Park, St. Paul. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

THURSDAY 7.5

DANCE

HATCH DANCE AND POOLBOY: ISOTOPE

SOUTHERN THEATER

In this performance of contemporary dance and alternative music, the slow-burn atmospheric sounds of Poolboy's Seth Conover meet the melding movement modalities of HATCH Dance's Helen Hatch. The new collaboration, titled *Isotope*, explores the inner life and our shadow selves by pairing Hatch's ballet-inflected rigor with Conover's impressionist moods. Movers Berit Ahlgren, Kacey Hawk, Anton LaMon, Jady Reddy, and Christian Warner ignite the innovative performance. 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday; 9 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. \$20/\$24 at the door; \$12 students and seniors. Saturday's later show is pay-as-able. 1420 S. Washington Ave., Minneapolis; 612-326-1811. **Through Sunday** —CAMILLE LEFEVRE

COMEDY

LAURIE KILMARTIN

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Laurie Kilmartin is a standup comedian as well as a writer for *Conan*. While it seems like her life couldn't be anymore ensconced in showbiz, she actually leads a pretty normal existence—we caught up with her by phone as she was about to take her son to the orthodontist. Indeed, she's not like a lot of her peers. "I don't build a new hour every year," she explains, "but then I haven't had a Netflix special either. If I'd had a Netflix special, maybe I would. I don't want this to turn into me grumbling about that," she adds with a laugh. "I just keep writing jokes and dropping jokes I hate or am sick of. That's sort of my process. I don't know how people keep writing brand new hours every year. It actually stressed me out." Describing herself as more of a



Princesses and superheroes chill at Convergence.

JERRY HOLT, STAR TRIBUNE

joke writer than a storyteller, she reasons, “I improve my set 30 seconds at a time, and it’s painfully slow.” In addition to her shows at Acme, Kilmartin will also be at Magers & Quinn for a reading from her new book, *Dead People Suck: A Guide for Survivors of the Newly Departed* at 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 8. 18+. 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday; 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. \$15-\$18. 708 N. First St., Minneapolis; 612-338-6393. **Through Saturday** —P.F. WILSON

CONVENTION CONVERGENCE 2018: NATURAL TWENTY

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON

For the past 20 years, folks have gathered in Bloomington over the Fourth of July weekend to make friends, cosplay, share fan theories, and bond over their favorite movies, books, games, and series. In 1999, attendance was at 1,500. This year, event organizers expect around 6,000. Revelers will find plenty to see and do, as the four-day gathering has a packed schedule. There will be panel talks covering various fandoms, including *Sense8*, *Deep Space 9*, *Death Note*, Terry Gilliam movies, and *The Handmaid’s Tale*. There will be gaming for all, whether you’re a *My Little Pony* gal or a zombie apocalypse gal. There will be dealers rooms where you can check out rare merch, and an artist alley if you’re looking for original artwork. A book swap, movie screenings, LAN parties, and more round out the happening. Find tickets and more info at www.convergence-con.org. \$35-\$125. 7800 Normandale Blvd., Bloomington; 952-835-7800. **Through Sunday** —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

SPORTS

HAMEL RODEO

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The rodeos in Texas are epic. And while we don’t quite have anything as large-

scale as that here in Minnesota, the annual Hamel Rodeo in Corcoran is your next best option. This festival, now in its 37th year, features pro riders and wranglers from the U.S. and Canada. Each event includes a variety of entertainment, competitions, and free pony rides for little ones an hour before the show. All proceeds from the event benefit nonprofits in the area. For more info visit www.hamelrodeo.org. 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Sunday; 1 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. parade on Sunday. \$10-\$18. 19101 Cty. Rd. 10, Corcoran; 763-420-4546. **Through Sunday** —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

FRIDAY 7.6

ART/GALLERY

MAGIC: THE GATHERING TRIBUTE SHOW + THE ULTIMATE FANTASY

LIGHT GREY ART LAB

Light Gray Art Lab celebrates the 25th anniversary of Magic: The Gathering with two exhibitions honoring the role-playing fantasy card game. Created by Richard Garfield, Magic is a masterful blend of exquisitely created cards and social experiences, which for two and a half decades has inspired people of all ages. For the “Magic: The Gathering Tribute Show,” artists pay homage with fan art celebrating the wonder and adventure that the game has inspired in them. Meanwhile, “The Ultimate Fantasy Exhibition” highlights game designers’ artistry. Whether you played Magic: The Gathering as a young person, are part of a community that enjoys the game now, or you just want to see what the fuss is about, you should stop by to check out these shows. There will be a public reception on Friday, July 6, from 7 to 10 p.m. 118 E. 26th St., Ste. 101, Minneapolis; 612-239-2047. **Through August** —SHEILA REGAN

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22 ►

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ESPADA

JUL 19
ESPN X GAMES
WITH PROF. SA-ROC, CASHINOVA

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WITH ALI SHAHEED MUHAMMAD

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JUL 29
MELVINS
WITH JON SPENCER

AUG 02
GO 95.3 PRESENTS
PLAYBOI CARTI

AUG 04
FLIP PHONE XXL:
SHORT SHORTS
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AUG 10
FIRST AVENUE
AND TIIIIIIIP PRESENT
A TRIBUTE TO OUTKAST

AUG 11
TRANSMISSION, 89.3 THE CURRENT,
AND ELECTRIC FETUS PRESENT
THE '80s
FEATURING DJ JAKE RUDH

AUG 18
89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
BAD BAD HATS
WITH SCRUNCHIES,
JESSICA MANNING

AUG 27
STEEL PULSE AND
TRIBAL SEEDS
WITH IYA TERRA

AUG 29
DINOSAUR JR.

IMPALER, THE REGIME, DARE FORCE, KUBLAI KHAN
93X PRESENTS
IMPALER,
THE REGIME,
DARE FORCE,
AND KUBLAI KHAN

SEP 05
89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
CAR SEAT HEADREST
WITH NAKED GIANTS

SEP 07
FIDLAR
A NORTH AMERICAN TOUR IN 2018
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THE JUDAS RISING TOUR
WITH ADELITA'S WAY,
STONE BROKEN, THE STIR

SEP 13
NEW POWER
GENERATION

SEP 14
NOTHING
BUT THIEVES
WITH grandson, DEMOB HAPPY

SEP 17
CAFÉ TACVBA
WITH THE MARIAS

SEP 23
SECOND SHOW ADDED
CODY JINKS

SEP 27
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AUG 11
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SEP 06
NEKO CASE
W/ THAO (of THE GET DOWN STAY DOWN)

SEP 07
AN EVENING WITH
DAWES: PASSWORDS TOUR

SEP 20+21
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W/ KHRUANGBIN
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THURSDAY, JULY 5

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W/ DJ HYLITE, KRASH MINATI
FRIDAY, JULY 6

WALKER LUKENS
W/ WARREN THOMAS FENZI,
ASHLEY GROVES
SATURDAY, JULY 7

BOMBADIL
W/ LYDIA LIZA
SUNDAY, JULY 8

CUT WORMS
W/ SHY BOYS
MONDAY, JULY 9

BENT KNEE
THE PAPER EARTH TOUR
W/ GATHERERS, BUBBLEMATH
TUESDAY, JULY 10

TV GIRL
W/ INFINITY CRUSH, CHEAP FANTASY
WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

UP NEXT TURF CLUB

DARLINGSIDE
W/ THE LOWLAND LAKERS
THURSDAY, JULY 5

THEM COULEE BOYS
W/ BUFFALO GOSPEL, HUMBIRD
FRIDAY, JULY 6

THE FREDDY JONES BAND
W/ DREAM OF THE WILD
SATURDAY, JULY 7

JASON EADY
WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

ALEX WILLIAMS
W/ ANGEL VAL
THURSDAY, JULY 12

ELECTRIC SIX
W/ MARK MALLMAN
FRIDAY, JULY 13

THE DREAM SYNDICATE
W/ KRAIG JARRET JOHNSON
AND THE PROGRAM
SATURDAY, JULY 14

UNSAFE
W/ CHILD BITE, BUILDINGS
SUNDAY, JULY 15

UP NEXT OTHER VENUES

MICHAEL CHE
PANTAGES THEATRE
THURSDAY, JULY 12

DEAFHEAVEN
W/ DRAB MAJESTY, UNIFORM
THE CEDAR
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1

SLEIGH BELLS
W/ TORRES
FINE LINE
THURSDAY, AUGUST 16

PEDRO THE LION
W/ H.C. MCENTIRE
FINE LINE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22

OLIVIA GATWOOD
W/ JOAQUINA MERTZ
THE CEDAR
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

AMANDA SHIRES
W/ LEAH BLEVINS
FINE LINE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

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A-LIST



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COURTESY OF EVENT ORGANIZERS

CONTINUED FROM FRIDAY ►

THEATER

IDEATION

GREMLIN THEATRE

In *Ideation*, contemporary playwright Aaron Loeb's disturbingly credible dark comedy, corporate-speak serves the purpose of concealing atrocious intentions with mundane language. In the piece, a team of consultants are tasked with developing an action plan to address a hypothetical disaster that grows distressingly realistic with the revelation of each nightmarish detail. Sequestered in a conference room, each team member must measure group-think against the pangs of individual responsibility. Directed by Brian Balcom, this Gremlin Theatre production is a comic thriller powered by gallows humor that mixes the tedious with the terrible, demonstrating how the former can be used as a particularly insidious means of obscuring the latter. Resounding with ethical conundrums and performed by a top-notch cast (including Kathy Kupiecki, Peter Christian Hansen, Nikhil Pandey, Brian P. Joyce, and Ben Shaw), *Ideation* intends to leave audiences pondering the presence of complicity every time someone suggests they "build a consensus." 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays, plus Monday, July 16; 3 p.m. Sundays. \$28; pay half your age for 30 and under. 550 Vandalia St., St. Paul; 651-228-7008.

Through July 29 —BRAD RICHASON

PARTY

SWEET SONGS AND FLYING OBJECTS

OPEN EYE FIGURE THEATRE

This summer, Open Eye Figure Theatre is hosting a series of garden parties

showcasing a variety of quirky puppet troupes and artists, with each evening ending with cocktails on the lawn. This week's installment features Paradox Teatro's *Migraciones*, which follows refugees as they travel in hopes of finding a new home. The piece is a collaboration between Mexican and American artists. Liz Howls' *Short Stories in Miniature* offers three tales presented with plenty of humor and tiny puppets. Music will be provided by the folksy Bella Yaga (Friday) and Coy & Daring (Saturday), a duo (Joey Ford and Jenna Wyse) whose past projects have included 7-Shot Symphony and the Poor Nobodys. The evening will return July 20-21 with a new mix of entertainment. Tickets and more info can be found at www.openeyetheatre.org. 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, also July 20-21. \$10. 506 E. 24th St., Minneapolis; 612-874-6338. **Through Saturday —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

SATURDAY 7.7

FESTIVAL

LITTLE MEKONG NIGHT MARKET

LITTLE MEKONG

In 2014, the Little Mekong business district launched the Little Mekong Night Market as a way to draw visitors to all the splendid things the area has to offer. The festival features arts, culture, and dance groups performing traditional forms, hip-hop, and breakdance. There are plenty of kid-friendly art activities, and tons of delectable snacks: spicy tater tots, refreshing bubble tea, Twistatos chips, frozen yogurt, and towering Lu's sandwiches. You'll want to come with an empty stomach to take advantage of all there is to offer. More info can be found at www.littlemekong.com. 5 p.m. to midnight Saturday; 2 to 10 p.m.

Sunday. Free. 422 University Ave. W., St. Paul. **Through Sunday** —**SHEILA REGAN**

THEATER

NOT EVERY MOUNTAIN

GUTHRIE THEATER

Austin, Texas-based performance company Rude Mechs (aka Rude Mechanicals) is making its Guthrie debut with *Not Every Mountain*. The piece doesn't follow a traditional narrative, and features no central characters. Instead, the work hinges upon the ever-evolving nature of existence, observing the process of change over the landscape of a stage-erected mountain. This centerpiece is a striking feat of engineering that uses adjustable geometric patterns to continually shift perspectives, giving audiences the sense of descending from the clouds or arising from the ground. Time and space are conveyed as moving pieces, emphasized by evocative lighting shifts, in an immersive landscape design by Thomas Graves. Underscoring the scenic designs is a mesmerizing soundscape by Peter Stopschinski that uses the frequencies of Earth's atmosphere as inspiration. Adding one more layer of inspiration are the lyrical musings of Kirk Lynn, whose enchanting rhapsodies interweave the reverent with the playful. Factor in an open invitation for audience interaction, and *Not Every Mountain* becomes a fascinating reminder that the act of creation, in and of itself, can be a work of art. 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 7 p.m. Sundays. \$9. 818 S. Second St., Minneapolis; 612-377-2224. **Through July 15** —**BRAD RICHASON**

FOOD/FRIENDSHIP

PIZZA CAMP 2018

BAKER NEAR-WILDERNESS SETTLEMENT

For the past five years, the MPLS Pizza Club has been celebrating pie with Pizza Camp, an overnight party filled with nature, beer, pizza, and friendship.

The all-inclusive event brings pizza lovers together for 24 hours of fun. Sadly, their fifth installment will be their last. Pizza will be wood-fired and plentiful, with vegan and gluten-free options available if requested. In between gorging, camp-style fun will be had, with canoeing, archery, capture the flag (or "pizza" in this case), a dough-making class, and printmaking and light art sessions scheduled. Stay up late drinking beer and telling ghost stories around the fire, or get some quality sleep in your cabin followed by coffee and Glam Doll doughnuts in the early morning. Before leaving, you will be bestowed with a nifty swag bag filled with goodies. Get your camp 'za while you still can. 21+. Tickets and more info can be found at www.eventbrite.com and www.facebook.com/mpls pizzaclub. 9 a.m. Saturday to 10:30 a.m. Sunday. \$205.97. 4001 Cty. Rd. 24, Maple Plain; 763-694-7856.

—**JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

SUNDAY 7.8

BIKES

PLAY MATTERS ALLEY CAT RACE & FUN ROLL

MATTHEWS PARK

Biking and rollerblading elf Santa Erik Riese has designed a fun alleycat race at Matthews Park. The course takes about 45 to 75 minutes, and you'll want to have your camera phone ready to complete some of the challenges. There'll be prizes for the top finishers, plus swag for everybody who participates. For folks who aren't into the alleycat, Santa Erik will throw on some rollerblades to lead a non-competitive slow roll through Seward and Longfellow. You'll need to sign up for the alleycat race, but you can just show up for the slow roll. Find tickets at eventbrite.com. 9 to 11 a.m. \$10 alleycat; free slow roll. Corner of East 25th Street and 29th Avenue South, Minneapolis. —**SHEILA REGAN**



COURTESY OF EVENT ORGANIZERS

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	"Good For Gary" at Babe's Music Bar 8PM	Grand Parade 5:30PM
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PEST POWER

Ant-Man and the Wasp hits all the notes of a summer superhero success



Paul Rudd as Ant-Man

BEN ROTHSTEIN

BY TONY LIBERA

It's only been a couple of months since *Avengers: Infinity War* came to theaters, but its whirlwind ending has unexpectedly turned *Ant-Man and the Wasp* into one of the most anticipated movies of the year. With so many lingering questions in the wake of Thanos' snap, diehards have turned to Marvel's latest for even the tiniest hint at the Marvel Cinematic Universe's fate. While *Ant-Man and the Wasp* might not have all the answers we're looking for, it gives us something much better: a rare blend of cool concept, novel action, actual heart, and legitimately funny performances from an ensemble cast. This is a movie that hits every note.

Which comes as something of a surprise. The first *Ant-Man* was one of the weaker entries in the MCU, but it seems that most of its issues have been avoided in the sequel. There were major pre-production problems with the original, so it's nice to see what director Peyton Reed can do when he's in the mix from the get-go.

Ant-Man and the Wasp opens with

some background on Janet van Dyne's (Michelle Pfeiffer) disappearance into the Quantum Realm before hopping to the present-ish, some two years after the events of *Captain America: Civil War* but before Thanos' epic snap. Scott Lang aka Ant-Man (Paul Rudd) is days away from being released from house arrest when a vivid dream causes him to give a fugitive Hank Pym (Michael Douglas) a call. After Hank and daughter Hope van Dyne (Evangeline Lilly) hear Scott's message, the latter kidnaps the once and future Ant-Man, telling him they may have found a way to bring her mother Janet back from the Quantum Realm. They just need one more component to complete the machine that can do it.

Trouble arises when black-market tech dealer Sonny Burch (Walton Goggins) gets wise to Hope's true identity; the arrival of a mysterious phasing baddie dubbed "Ghost" (Hannah John-Kamen) further complicates rescue efforts.

As villains go, Ghost is a marked improvement over *Ant-Man*'s Darren Cross (Corey Stoll), a pretty forgettable foe in the grand scheme of things. There's a more clearly

ANT-MAN AND THE WASP

directed by Peyton Reed
now open, area theaters

defined drive behind Ghost's actions—beyond the one-dimensional megalomania Marvel has been knocked for in the past—and that heightened sensibility seems to pervade every other aspect of the film.

The fights between Ghost and Wasp are more energetic than anything Cross' Yellowjacket persona ever dished out. The jokes are not only laugh-out-loud funny—like the scene where Luis (Michael Peña) may or may not be dosed with truth serum—but prove to be as intricate as they are relevant to the plot, as is the case with Scott's newfound playing-card sleights. Everyone in the cast finds a way to make a mark, so that Paul Rudd, who is as wonderful as ever, still feels less like a lead and more like the light that helps his co-stars shine.

Ant-Man and the Wasp delivers everything you'd want out of a comic book movie. It's crazy that after 10 years, Marvel still has tricks up its sleeve. **C+**

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MIDSUMMER IN WINONA

Great River Shakespeare Festival is worth the trip



DAN NORMAN

BY JAY GABLER

You won't find an ad for Welsh castle tours in the typical Minnesota theater program—but the Great River Shakespeare Festival doesn't attract a typical audience.

In addition to people from Winona and the Driftless Area, explains artistic director Doug Scholz-Carlson, the festival attracts Twin Cities audiences and Shakespeare superfans: "People who go to the festival in Stratford, or who go to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and then they'll come see us as well."

They have good reason to make Minnesota's festival a regular destination. In addition to Shakespeare, the festival stages complementary plays like this year's *Venus in Fur*, a sensual psychological drama that has Anna Sundberg reprising the role she played at the Jungle Theater in 2013.

Sundberg is making the most of her return to the festival, where she apprenticed 11 years ago. In addition to *Venus in Fur*, she's perfectly cast as the Bard's romantic interest in *Shakespeare in Love*.

Christopher Peltier stars opposite Sundberg in that charming production, which marks the first time the festival has ever staged a play about Shakespeare. A good-humored cast and scenic designer R. Eric Stone's spinning stage-within-a-stage keep things clipping merrily along in Lee Hall's 2014 adaptation of the Oscar-winning movie.

Friday night's *Shakespeare in Love* premiere was part of a weekend in which all four plays in the 15th annual festival opened. (A *Midsummer Night's Dream* and *All's Well*

GREAT RIVER SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

Winona State University
507-474-7900; grsf.org
Through August 5

That Ends Well are the Shakespeare shows this year.) Before the play, audiences relaxed on a leafy quad outside for a pre-show talk.

The six-week festival also includes concerts, film screenings, panel discussions, a sonnet contest, and even tree tours. Education is a major component: There are workshops, an intern/apprentice production, and a show by high schoolers. Plays are chosen to talk to each other.

"We got talking about this moment in time that we're in right now, about gender dynamics," he explains. "All of our plays relate to that." *All's Well That Ends Well* is about problematic extremes in romantic pursuit, while *Midsummer* sends its characters into a forest where they do some regrettable things and subsequently need to find a way to move forward together.

After warmly applauding *Shakespeare in Love*, Friday night's audience spilled out onto the lawn for a spread of snacks and a performance by the Big Dixie Swingers. There was an air of familial conviviality, which fits Scholz-Carlson's description of a festival that's well worth the short road trip for Twin Cities theater fans.

"You step out of your everyday life for a day or two," he says. "You immerse yourself in some great works of art, and you have some conversations that can really help you discover yourself as a human being." □

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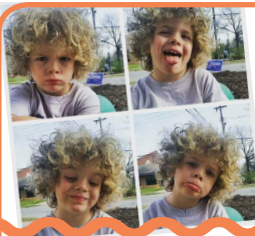
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STREET *Style*

UPTOWN GROOVE Summer style spotting near Hennepin and Lake. **BY AMY GEE**



SABRINA JI

26, GRAPHIC DESIGNER

What are you wearing?

Zara pants, sweater, and scarf, Hollister top, Birkenstock sandals, Free People bag, Mango earrings.

Describe your style:

Simple, denim, casual.

Favorite thing in your closet right now?

Scarves. I have a lot like this one.

What's a summer staple that everyone should own?

A skort.



RACHEL ANDES

21, NANNY, DIOR COSMETICS CONSULTANT

What are you wearing?

Dress from Forever 21, Steve Madden shoes, necklace from Macy's.

Describe your style:

I like neutrals. I don't do a lot of colors, and I always wear heels.

Favorite thing in your closet right now?

I just bought a white contemporary dress with buttons down the front from a thrift shop.

What's a summer staple that everyone should own?

A good pair of heels.



DOAN LY

FLORAL DESIGNER, PHOTOGRAPHER

What are you wearing?

No. 6 dress, Minor History bag, Madewell shoes, Sézane earrings.

Describe your style:

Easy, strong silhouette.

Favorite thing in your closet right now?

My new Ulla Johnson dress from Mille.

What's a summer staple that everyone should own?

A linen slip dress or a jumpsuit.



MELANIE WILLIAMS

39, SALES EXECUTIVE AT MICROSOFT

What are you wearing?

Dress from H&M, clogs from Cliché, earrings from LOFT.

Describe your style:

I like to keep it kind of eclectic but easy.

Favorite thing in your closet right now?

A really great pair of rag & bone black high-waisted pencil pants that I wear all the time.

What's a summer staple that everyone should own?

A simple black cocktail dress.



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AGAINST ALL ODDS

With help from Lazerbeak, Longshot draws inspiration from adversity on *Parades*



BRIAN OMEN

BY ERICA RIVERA

All the odds were against Longshot. It was 1986 and the little boy then known as Chad Heslup was living in a hotel room in North Oakland. The eldest of six siblings by four different fathers, Heslup was responsible for feeding his brothers and his sister powdered milk, cold cuts, and bread before getting them to school. Then he hit the streets to panhandle. If he made enough money, he'd buy his "dope-sick" mother a pack of cigarettes.

"The images and memories I have in my head, no kid should be around that," the Minneapolis rapper says of his childhood. "I saw a lot of stuff: mom smokin' heroin, crackheads comin' in and out, being interviewed by police."

Heslup's grandmother back in Chicago arranged for the family to come home. But

when his mother ended up in the hospital, leaving all six kids with a babysitter for over two weeks, the sitter called the Department of Children and Family Services of Illinois. Heslup and his siblings were torn apart and dispersed to different foster homes. He spent three years with his estranged father's then-wife and a year with his grandmother.

On the day the kids were to be returned to their mother, Heslup saw her slap a case-worker in court and get arrested. He knew then that the family would never reunite. He landed in a group home run by Boys Hope Girls Hope. Thanks to scholarships, he attended Catholic middle school and high school, escaping into baseball and football. His athletic talents got him into Drake University, where an injury ended his football career during freshman year.

Heslup didn't leave school empty-handed, though; Drake is where he

**LONGSHOT
AND LAZERBEAK**
Parades release party
7th St. Entry on July 4

learned to freestyle. His teammates often rapped together, but Heslup didn't join them because he didn't think he was good enough. "Now, looking back, they all sucked," he says. "But in that time, they were all so dope."

After a teammate's friend, a guy from the Twin Cities, "killed" one night, Heslup went back to his dorm room, put on track 18 of the Roots' *Illadelph Halflife*, and rapped all night. That sealed his fate. He left Drake, moved back to Chicago, and at age 20, he performed for the first time. The exhilaration onstage was greater than anything he'd felt playing sports. "I knew the first time I performed that this was my life's calling, not just something I wanted to do," he says.

Unable to participate in Chicago's

open mics because of his age, Longshot relocated to Washington, D.C. to "pay my rap dues," he says. He slept on the couch of a friend's studio, wrote all day, and recorded at night. His first 12-inch, *Happiness Is Hard to Find*, dropped in 2002.

Longshot's albums now number nine, the same amount of years he's lived in Minneapolis, where he relocated to "soak up as much game as I possibly could" from the local hip-hop scene. He shares credit for his latest LP, *Parades*, with Doomtree producer Lazerbeak. Over funky, innovative beats, Longshot shares his dreams for a happy home life, emerging from poverty, and building a sustainable music career.

The title track pays homage to people of color killed by police who don't get "no damn parades," while other cuts cover topics such as girls in the club ("Holla"), drugs ("Narcotic"), and contemptible men ("Let Him Go"). Ultimately, Longshot arrives at a hopeful place on "True Story": "I want to live without police harassment/I want to live in peace and happiness/I want to live where my son feels safe and my daughter gonna grow/ And if you care, you're an activist."

While Longshot's last album, *Struggle Music*, was about adversity, this one is about how to respond to it—namely, without resentment or bitterness. Instead, he encourages listeners to "celebrate yourself by letting poison go," he says. "I want to spread love. We're so dark right now. I want to be like a torch. You're a torch. When you touch mine, you light up and you spread your light to someone. That's how we light up the world."

Now 39, Longshot embodies this philosophy. His smile beams, enviable lashes frame his big brown eyes, and he exudes a zealous energy that seems too big for his body. Any lingering trauma from childhood he now processes through music. "This is literally my therapy. This is how I talk to my brothers, how I talk to my mom," he says. "It's for them. It's for us. It's the most important thing in my life. It's all aligned. My music fuels my love for life, which is my family and my friends, and that love of life fuels my

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music. It's one."

Describing his dream—to one day buy a home and distribute keys to all his siblings—Longshot gets emotional, and apologizes for it. "I still haven't gotten that house and our family's still messed up," he says. His grandmother recently had a debilitating stroke, and he's unsure if she even recognizes him anymore. "I've never had anybody in my life die. No one," he says. "I've been fortunate in that sense." His mother, now 16 years clean, is dying of liver cancer; several of his siblings are not on good terms with her.

"She has this ball of fire inside of her. I don't care how many days you go to church, I don't care how many times you found God, how much you don't curse. It's still inside of her," Longshot says. And yet, he adds, "I don't hold nothing against her. My mother made me. Even I have crazy feelings [about her], obviously, but I would never turn on her. I'm the only person she has to dump on."

Longshot is unmarried and has no children, but the local music scene has become as much of a home as he could ask for. "This scene is so cohesive and so close-knit," he says. "Chicago is not like that. It's the complete opposite." And he feels like he's a part of creating a sound and an identity for local hip-hop. "I'm so appreciative and so blessed. I feel very lucky to be able to say that I was alive and making music during this time in Minneapolis." **CP**

CRITICS' PICKS

RAY WYLIE HUBBARD

DAKOTA, SUNDAY 7.8

Best known for his outlaw-country anthem "Up Against the Wall, Redneck Mother," memorably recorded by pal Jerry Jeff Walker in 1973, Ray Wylie Hubbard has spent subsequent decades as an ornery Texas troubadour, sagebrush philosopher, weaver of dusty trail tales, and rowdy honky-tonker. Hubbard's gnarly drawl slithers charismatically around wizened country, blues, and stinging rock on his current *Tell The Devil I'm Gettin' There As Fast As I Can*, which also includes a tribute to Twin Cities icons Koerner, Ray and Glover, "Spider, Snaker and Little Sun." 7 p.m. \$27-\$37. 1010 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; 612-332-1010. —RICK MASON

SLUM VILLAGE

AMSTERDAM BAR & HALL, MONDAY 7.9

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MUSIC CRITICS' PICKS

downright devastating. Still, the Detroit rap group's funk- and soul-infused sound has endured. Now just the duo of MCs T3 and Young RJ, SV's latest studio album is *Yes!*, from 2015, followed by a series of archival releases, most recently including April's *The Lost Scrolls, Vol. 2. 6 Sixth St. W., St. Paul*; 612-285-3112. —MICHAEL MADDEN

YOB

TURF CLUB, TUESDAY 7.10

Few, if any, metal bands pull off long-to-looong songs with the mastery of YOB, who mix cosmic ambiance, loudness, quietness, riff repetition, and release. Formed in 1996, they leaped to major metal institution Relapse Records ahead of June's seven-song, 73-minute *Our Raw Heart*. It's a towering emergence to a bigger audience and, following frontman Mike Scheidt's recovery from life-saving intestinal surgery in early 2017, a triumphant one. With Bell Witch and Former Worlds. 21+. 7:30 p.m. \$16/\$18. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388. —MICHAEL MADDEN

BOZ SCAGGS

STATE THEATRE, TUESDAY 7.10

Boz Scaggs climbed the mid-'70s charts with sly, silky, suave soul/R&B/pop hybrids like "Lowdown" and "Lido Shuffle." After a mid-career hiatus, he returned with a more eclectic mix, including standards, jazz, and rock, while his nicely textured voice, skillful phrasing, and keen interpretive flair acquired yet more character. Scaggs' new *Out of the Blues* completes a loose album trilogy (*Memphis, A Fool to Care*), all featuring producer/drummer Steve Jordan and all-star studio vets, paying tribute to his many influences. *Blues'* focus is just that, covering the likes of Bobby Blue Bland, Jimmy Reed, and Magic Sam. 7:30 p.m. \$56.50-\$65. 805 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-339-7007. —RICK MASON

DAVELL CRAWFORD, DIRTY DOZEN BRASS BAND

DAKOTA, TUESDAY 7.10
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This classic New Orleans lagniappe (local patois for "a little something extra") features two Crescent City champs. Known as the Piano Prince of New Orleans, Davell Crawford is a legit heir to the great regional keyboard legacy that runs through Allen Toussaint and Professor Longhair back to Jelly Roll Morton. He's an accomplished gospel-inflected singer too. Notably clean and fewer than 12, the Dirty Dozen revolutionized New Orleans' brass band tradition with brash infusions of funk, bop, R&B, and soul; 41 years later their feet haven't failed them yet. 7 and 9 p.m. \$25-\$40. 1010 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; 612-332-1010. —RICK MASON

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

>> By Rob Breznysy

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19): Twentieth-century French novelist Marcel Proust described 19th-century novelist Gustave Flaubert as a *trottoir roulant*, or “rolling sidewalk”: plodding, toneless, droning. Meanwhile, critic Roger Shattuck compared Proust’s writing to an “electric generator” from which flows a “powerful current always ready to shock not only our morality but our very sense of humanity.” In the coming weeks, I encourage you to find a middle ground between Flaubert and Proust. See if you can be moderately exciting, gently provocative, and amiably enchanting. My analysis of the cosmic rhythms suggests that such an approach is likely to produce the best long-term results.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You remind me of Jack, the nine-year-old Taurus kid next door, who took up skateboarding on the huge trampoline his two moms put in their backyard. Like him, you seem eager to travel in two different modes at the same time. (And I’m glad to see you’re being safe; you’re not doing the equivalent of, say, having sex in a car or breakdancing on an escalator.) When Jack first began, he had difficulty in coordinating the bouncing with the rolling. But after a while he got good at it. I expect that you, too, will master your complex task.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20): From the day you were born, you have been cultivating a knack for mixing and blending. Along the way, you have accomplished mergers that would have been impossible for a lot of other people. Some of your experiments in amalgamation are legendary. If my astrological assessments are accurate, the year 2019 will bring forth some of your all-time most marvelous combinations and unifications. I expect you are even now setting the stage for those future fusions; you are building the foundations that will make them natural and inevitable. What can you do in the coming weeks to further that preparation?

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22): An open letter to Cancerians from Rob Breznys’s mother, Felice: I want you to know that I played a big role in helping my Cancerian son become the empathetic, creative, thoughtful, crazy character he is today. I nurtured his idiosyncrasies. I made him feel secure and well-loved. My care freed him to develop his unusual ideas and life. So as you read Rob’s horoscopes, remember that there’s part of me inside him. And that part of me is nurturing you just as I once nurtured him. I and he are giving you love for the quirky, distinctive person you actually are, not some fantasy version of you. I and he are helping you feel more secure and well-appreciated. Now I encourage you to cash in on all that support. As Rob has told me, it’s time for you Cancerians to reach new heights in your drive to express your unique self.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The ghost orchid is a rare white wildflower that disappeared from the British countryside around 1886. The nation’s botanists declared it officially extinct in 2005. But four years later, a tenacious amateur located a specimen growing in the West Midlands area. The species wasn’t gone forever, after all. I foresee a comparable revival for you in the coming weeks. Leo, An interesting influence or sweet thing that you imagined to be permanently defunct may return to your life. Be alert!

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The ancient Greek poet Sappho described “a sweet-apple turning red high on the tip of the topmost branch.” The apple pickers left it there, she suggested, but not because they missed seeing it. It was just too high. “They couldn’t reach it,” wrote Sappho. Let’s use this scenario as a handy metaphor for your current situation, Virgo. I am assigning you the task of doing whatever is necessary to fetch that glorious, seemingly unobtainable sweet-apple. It may not be easy. You’ll probably need to summon extra ingenuity to reach it, as well as some as-yet unguessed form of help. (The Sappho translation is by Julia Dubnoff.)

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Is there any prize more precious than knowing your calling? Can any other satisfaction compare with the joy of understanding why you’re here on earth? In my view, it’s the supreme blessing: to have discovered the tasks that can ceaselessly educate and impassion you; to do the work or play that enables you to offer your best gifts; to be intimately engaged with an activity that consistently asks you to overcome your limitations and grow into a more complete version of yourself. For some people, their calling is a job: marine biologist, kindergarten teacher, advocate for the homeless. For others, it’s a hobby, like long-distance-running, bird-watching, or mountain-climbing. St. Therese of Lisieux said, “My calling is love!” Poet Marina Tsvetaeva said her calling was “To listen to my soul.” Do you know yours, Libra? Now is an excellent time to either discover yours or home in further on its precise nature.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Have you entertained any high-quality fantasies about faraway treasures lately? Have you delivered inquiring communiqués to any promising beauties who may ultimately offer you treats? Have you made long-distance inquiries about speculative possibilities that could be inclined to travel in your direction from their frontier sanctuaries? Would you consider making some subtle change in yourself so that you’re no longer forcing the call of the wild to wait and wait and wait?

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): If a down-to-earth spiritual teacher advised you to go on a five-day meditation retreat in a sacred sanctuary, would you instead spend five days carousing with meth addicts in a cheap hotel? If a close friend confessed a secret she had concealed from everyone for years, would you unleash a nervous laugh and change the subject? If you read a horoscope that told you now is a favorable time to cultivate massive amounts of reverence, devotion, respect, gratitude, innocence, and awe, would you quickly blank it out of your mind and check your Instagram and Twitter accounts on your phone?

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A typical working couple devotes an average of four minutes per day to focused conversation with each other. And it’s common for a child and parent to engage in meaningful communication for just 20 minutes per week. I bring these sad facts to your attention, Capricorn, because I want to make sure you don’t embody them in the coming weeks. If you hope to attract the best of life’s blessings, you will need to give extra time and energy to the fine art of communing with those you care about.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Allergies, irritants, stings, hypersensitivities: sometimes you can make these annoyances work in your behalf. For example, my allergy to freshly cut grass meant that when I was a teenager, I never had to waste my Saturday afternoons mowing the lawn in front of my family’s suburban home. And the weird itching that plagued me whenever I got into the vicinity of my sister’s fiancé: If I had paid attention to it, I wouldn’t have lent him the \$350 that he never repaid. So my advice, my itchy friend, is to be thankful for the twitch and the prickle and the pinch. In the coming days, they may offer you tips and clues that could prove valuable.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Are you somehow growing younger? Your stride seems bouncier and your voice sounds more buoyant. Your thoughts seem fresher and your eyes brighter. I won’t be surprised if you buy yourself new toys or jump in mud puddles. What’s going on? Here’s my guess: you’re no longer willing to sleepwalk your way through the most boring things about being an adult. You may also be ready to wean yourself from certain responsibilities unless you can render them pleasurable at least some of the time. I hope so. It’s time to bring more fun and games into your life.

freewillastrology@freewillastrology.com

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OVERTIME

BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY

Across

- 1 With no markup
7 Track regular
13 Bit of math homework
15 Breathing tube part
16 Break from the schedule
17 Female grouse
18 Time to act
19 Party without many women
21 End of the party
22 Pick things out
23 Talk back?
25 It might be a lot to split up
27 Smartphone feature
29 Future Basketball Hall of Famer Steve
31 Academic basics, briefly
32 Want something very much
33 Still want it
35 Hammett hound
37 Carpet’s coverage
39 Composer who said “There is no such thing as an empty space or an empty time”
41 Prop for Winston Churchill
43 Holding company’s offering?
45 Rest of the offering
49 Mad scientist who is the archenemy of Action Man
50 Some
52 Jump for joy
54 Sherry classification
56 “That’s my cue!”
58 Mountain stats
59 Justify events?

- 60 Further events
62 “That was close”
64 Sot’s order
66 Guatemala
69 Moves to a better table, say
70 Autocracy adherent
71 Primps
72 Computer download ... and a hint to this puzzle’s theme

Down

- 1 Patriot’s Day mo.
2 Canada’s prime minister
3 Denounce
4 Nonsense words in a “White Album” song
5 “Seasons in the Abyss” thrash band
6 Hanoi holiday
7 Judicial obstacles
8 Bit of energy
9 Taking things the wrong way?
10 Personally
11 Faux fat brand that caused explosive diarrhea
12 Trulia user
14 Blend together
15 Tempe inst.
20 Simply the best
22 15- or 67-Down: Abbr.
24 Free wifi provider
26 Catch some fly balls
28 “Manhattan Beach” author Jennifer
30 Played with a bow

- 34 Zap with gun
36 Medical fluid
38 Backside
40 Soccer commentator White
41 Frank Sinatra, notably
42 “You Could Be Mine” singer
44 Fred to George Weasley
46 Shakespeare character who drowns
47 Stagecoach’s setting
48 G.I. cops
49 It’s just below E
51 Aspects
53 Surround
55 Makeup first name
57 “Little Dark Age” indie band
61 Form W-7 issuer
63 Challenging
65 Alden played him
67 Columbus inst.
68 Office park address abbr.

Last Week’s Answer

R	O	M	P		H	A	B	I	T		B	E	G		
E	F	O	R		E	L	I	T	E		D	O	V	E	
A	F	R	O		A	B	E	T	S		A	N	A	L	
D	R	O	P	E		V	E	R	E		T	H	I	N	G
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SAVAGE LOVE

It Got Better

'My sex life rocks
since I got married'



Dan Savage

In a recent column, you said you never hear from married couples whose sex life got better and more frequent over the years. My wife and I were married 24 years ago, and we are currently having more and better sex than we did in the first years of our marriage. There are many reasons why, including therapy, antidepressants, weight loss, and subsequent surgery—but I would have to say that the big reason is communication. If you had known us 25 years ago, Dan, you would not have given us good odds. We'd been dating only a year and a half when we got engaged. I was a virgin, my wife was not, together we hadn't gotten much past second base, and neither of us had laid our kink cards on the table. We were (and still are) introverts with poor communication skills and anxiety/depression/mental-health issues. I won't say it's been fairytale perfect, but it's been pretty damn close. My wife has been incredibly GGG, and I hope I have been, too. So there you go, Dan! Now you know there's at least one couple out there whose sex life has only gotten better over the years.

BETTER EROTIC TIES TOTALLY
ENHANCED RELATIONSHIP

Last week, I responded to IMDONE, a woman who married a man despite the sex being "infrequent and impersonal" during their courtship. The sex didn't get better after IMDONE and her boyfriend got married. "Here's something I've never seen in my inbox: a letter from someone explaining how sex with their partner was infrequent, impersonal, uninspired, unimaginative, etc. at first but—holy moly—the sex got a fuck of a lot better after the wedding." I wrote in my response to IMDONE. I did allow for the possibility that my sample was skewed; people with good sex lives don't write to tell me everything's fine. So I invited people whose so-so sex lives improved after the wedding to write in. And did they ever: My inbox is packed with emails from couples whose sex lives got better after the wedding.

Am I the first or the hundredth person to write in? Yes, sex for us got better after marriage. I suspect you don't see it in your inbox very often because this isn't what most

people would consider a problem, and we don't want to waste your time! All it took for the sex to get better was practice and paying attention to cues and solving problems. I strongly suspect that perseverance and a bit of luck were also major factors.

PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE

My sex life improved after marriage. I am a straight male with a highly stigmatized kink. I was deeply ashamed of my sexual interest even before my mother discovered my porn when I was 14 and told me I was a pervert that no decent woman would ever want. When I met my wife, our sex life was okay—but I was never fully present, because I would have to concentrate on my fantasies in order to sustain an erection. I eventually retreated into masturbation. My wife knew I was masturbating in the middle of the night instead of having sex with her, and that led to some enormous fights. So I told her about my kink, fully expecting that it would result in the collapse of my marriage. We didn't speak about it for a week, and then she calmly asked me if I wanted to do this with her instead of just watching porn about it.

PARTNERSHIP IMPROVED SEXUAL SITUATION

First, I want to thank everyone who wrote in. I do feel obligated to point out, however, that these are anecdotes, not data. And while there isn't data to back up my position—that sex doesn't generally get better after marriage—my pile of anecdotes is a whole lot bigger. So I'm going to continue to urge people to establish basic sexual compatibility before marriage rather than hoping a so-so sexual connection—or a nonexistent one—will somehow get better after marriage. But it can be done. You just need to have PPP's luck or be married to someone willing to do the work, or fortunate enough to wind up with someone willing to take the leak, like PISS's spouse was.

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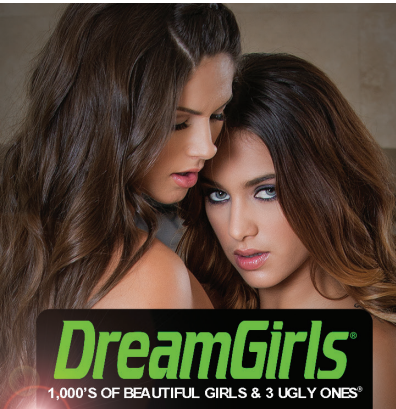
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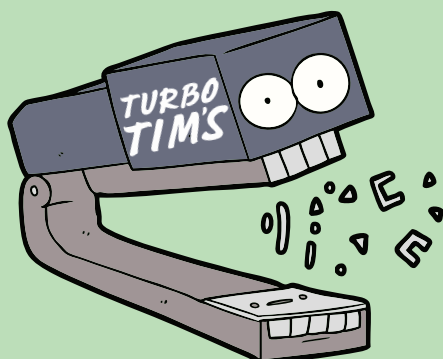
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